



News Release

Office of the Louisiana State Fire Marshal
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Arrest Made in the Murder of a Man by Arson

Tallulah, LA- The State Fire Marshal's Office has released information in reference to the arrest of a woman for setting a home on fire that resulted in the death of a man.

The State Fire Marshal's Office, Madison Parish Sheriff's Office and Tallulah Police Department jointly investigated a residential fire that occurred on November 2, 2011 at 712 Holt Street at approximately 3:25 am. This fire was determined to be intentionally set and was classified as arson. Mr. Johnny Hopkins (dob. 6-22-1969) lived in the home and died in the fire. One other person was in the home at the time of the fire and escaped without injury.

Investigators have arrested Shurna Gray (dob. 5-28-1960) and charged her with the setting of the fire and the death of Mr. Hopkins. The two did have an ongoing personal relationship. She was booked in to the Madison Parish Jail charged with first degree murder and aggravated arson. No bond has been set.

State Fire Marshal H. "Butch" Browning stated, "It is a sad day, as this man lost his life because of arson, our prayers go out to him and his family. I want to commend the work of Sheriff Larry Cox and Police Chief James Baughn and their staff, as through team work we were able to make this arrest".

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